Reply dated March 1, 2007

Reply to Office Communication of February 1, 2007

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-52. (Cancelled)

53. (New) A transformant prepared by recombination with the use of a DNA comprising

a gene encoding a biosurfactant and/or a DNA comprising a gene encoding a plastic-degrading

enzyme.

54. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, wherein the biosurfactant is

hydrophobin or a hydrophobin homologue derived from Aspergillus oryzae.

55. (New) The transformant according to claim 54, wherein the DNA comprising the gene

encoding hydrophobin or a hydrophobin homologue is a DNA comprising a base sequence

encoding the following polypeptide (a) or (b):

(a) polypeptide having an amino acid sequence that is the same or substantially the same

as that represented by SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:3,

2

(b) polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of (a) wherein a part of amino acid

residues are replaced, deleted, or added, and having substantially the same

function as the hydrophobin.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

GMM/TJS/tg

Docket No.: 4600-0112PUS1

Docket No.: 4600-0112PUS1

56. (New) The transformant according to claim 54, wherein the DNA comprising the gene encoding hydrophobin or hydrophobin homologue is a DNA of the following (a) or (b):

- (a) DNA comprising a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:3 or its partial sequence,
- (b) DNA being hybridized with a base sequence complementary to the DNA comprising the base sequence in (a) under stringent conditions, and having substantially the same function as the DNA (a).
- 57. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, wherein the biosurfactant is a plastic-binding protein derived from *Aspergillus oryzae*.
- 58. (New) The transformant according to claim 57, wherein the DNA comprising the gene encoding the plastic-binding protein is a DNA comprising a base sequence encoding the following polypeptide (a) or (b):
 - (a) polypeptide having an amino acid sequence that is the same or substantially the same as that represented by SEQ ID NO:6 or SEQ ID NO:7,
 - (b) polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of (a) wherein a part of amino acid residues are replaced, deleted, or added, and having substantially the same function as the hydrophobin.

Reply dated March 1, 2007

Reply to Office Communication of February 1, 2007

59. (New) The transformant according to claim 57, wherein the DNA comprising the

gene encoding the plastic-binding protein is a DNA of the following (a) or (b):

(a) DNA comprising a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:6 or SEQ ID NO:7 or

its partial sequence,

(b) DNA being hybridized with a base sequence complementary to the DNA comprising

the base sequence in (a) under stringent conditions, and having substantially the

same function as the DNA (a).

60. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, wherein the plastic-degrading

enzyme is serine hydrase from Aspergillus oryzae.

61. (New) The transformant according to claim 60, wherein the serine hydrase is an

esterase.

62. (New) The transformant according to claim 61, wherein the esterase is a cutinase.

63. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, wherein the DNA comprising the

gene encoding the plastic-degrading enzyme is a DNA comprising a base sequence encoding the

following polypeptide (a) or (b):

(a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence that is the same or substantially the

same as that represented by SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:5,

Docket No.: 4600-0112PUS1

Reply dated March 1, 2007

Reply to Office Communication of February 1, 2007

(b) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of (a) wherein a part of amino acid

residues are replaced, deleted, or added, and having substantially the same

function as the plastic-degrading enzyme.

64. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, wherein the DNA comprising the

gene encoding the plastic-degrading enzyme is a DNA of the following (a) or (b):

(a) DNA comprising a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:5 or

its partial sequence,

(b) DNA being hybridized with a base sequence complementary to the DNA comprising

the base sequence in (a) under stringent conditions, and having substantially the

same function as the DNA (a).

65. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, which is further prepared by

recombination with the use of DNA comprising a gene encoding a useful substance.

66. (New) A transformant prepared by recombination with the use of the DNA

comprising the gene encoding the hydrophobin derived from Aspergillus oryzae, the DNA

comprising the gene encoding the cutinase derived from Aspergillus oryzae, and a DNA

comprising a gene encoding amylase.

Docket No.: 4600-0112PUS1

Reply dated March 1, 2007

Reply to Office Communication of February 1, 2007

Docket No.: 4600-0112PUS1

67. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, wherein at least one of the DNA

comprising the gene encoding the biosurfactant and the DNA comprising the gene encoding the

plastic-degrading enzyme is expressed under the control of a promoter derived from another

gene.

68. (New) The transformant according to claim 53, which is a eukaryotic filamentous

fungus selected from the group consisting of genera of: Aspergillus, Penicillium, Trichodera,

Rhizopus, Magnaporthe, Metarhisium, Neurospora, Monascus, Acremonium and Mucor.

69. (New) The transformant according to claim 68, which is genera of Aspergillus.

70. (New) The transformant according to claim 69, which is Aspergillus oryzae.